



EMSC

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## The Pony Express

### Headline News

#### EMSC Partners Awarded New Targeted Issues Grant, Leading the Way in Pediatric Emergency Medical Research

Baylor College of Medicine (BCM), in conjunction with the Texas Children's Hospital Evidence-Based Outcomes Center (TCH EBOC), will be partnering with the University of Texas Southwestern, Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas, Houston Fire Department Emergency Medical Services (EMS), City of Austin/Travis County EMS, and BioTel EMS with a recently awarded Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) [Targeted Issue Grant](#). The project is titled "Integrating Evidence-Based Pediatric Prehospital Protocols into Practice," and the purpose of the study is to create a model statewide infrastructure for the development, implementation, and measurement of outcomes of an evidence-based pediatric prehospital protocol in Texas.

Funds from this grant will be used to establish and evaluate a process for the development of an evidence-based pediatric prehospital protocol for the state of Texas through the existing EMSC State Partnership and the TCH EBOC. After creation of an evidence-based protocol, 3 targeted EMS systems in Houston, Dallas, and Austin will implement it in their systems. The investigators from the EMSC State Partnership include [Dr. Manish Shah](#), Dr. Halim Hennes, Dr. Sujit Iyer, [Dr. Paul Sirbaugh](#), and Dr. Charles Macias. In addition, medical directors from the 3 targeted systems, Dr. David Persse, Dr. Paul Hinchey, and Dr. Raymond Fowler, will be collaborating on this project as well. These investigators will evaluate the impact of a pediatric prehospital protocol by tracking process and outcomes measures after its implementation in multiple systems.

The protocol created from this research will be disseminated via the EMSC State Partnership website in late 2011 to allow other EMS agencies both within and outside Texas to view the protocol and integrate it into their own systems in a replicable fashion. In addition, updates on progress from this project will be shared through upcoming continuing education visits to the 22 Regional Advisory Councils (RAC) in Texas and through the Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC). Findings from this project will be shared at regional and national meetings in 2-3 years.

In addition to the 2010 TI grant, two other key leaders in the Texas EMSC State Partnership have received continuation funding for ongoing TI grants.

[Dr. Charles Macias](#), EMSC Director and Advisory Committee member-- Baylor College of Medicine, is the Principal investigator for "Pediatric Emergency Department (ED) Use of an Asthma Educational Intervention to Improve Quality of Care."

(See EMSC Targeted Issue Grants, Pg. 2)



Mail Pouch

### Best Practices

#### NHTSA Drafts Recommendations for the Safe Transportation of Children in Ground Ambulances



The Institute of Medicine's Report on EMS in 2007 stated that there are close to 16 million ambulance transports every year, translating to nearly 1.6 million pediatric transports<sup>1</sup>. Furthermore, it has been reported that there are up to 1,000 ambulance crashes annually involving children<sup>2</sup>, and this does not consider injuries that may have occurred due to improper restraints in a moving ambulance when no crash occurs.

EMSC first joined NHTSA in the effort to improve the safety of children in ambulances in the late 1990's, convening a national consensus committee to produce "[The Dos and Don'ts of Transporting Children in Ambulances](#)." However, there were still no federal requirements or protocols for properly restraining children in an ambulance.

In 2009, a working group consisting of representatives from 12 children's health, medical, and emergency organizations and seven federal agencies was convened to develop the Recommendations for the Safe Transport of Children in Ground Ambulances. This document represents a milestone in improving both safety and quality of care for children. The blueprints are now in place to help state and local EMS leaders to establish safe pediatric transportation standards and to guide ambulance and EMS equipment manufacturers to design and produce the tools necessary to keep all kids safe when they are in our care.

<sup>1</sup> Institute of Medicine. *Emergency medical services at the crossroad*. Washington, D.C., The National Academy Press. 2007.

<sup>2</sup> NHTSA. Recommendations for the safe transportation of children in ground ambulances [draft report]. July 2010. Accessed online August 25, 2010 from [www.ems.gov](http://www.ems.gov)

## EMSC State Partnership, TX

[www.bcm.edu/pediatrics/emsc](http://www.bcm.edu/pediatrics/emsc)

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**EMSC State Partnership, TX**

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## EMSC Targeted Issue Grants

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The goals and objectives of the study are to provide tailored asthma education in a pediatric ED using the Baylor Asthma Care for Kids Educational Resource (BACKER) intervention. Overall, this education program aims to reduce the rate of return ED visits among children with asthma. The project will also measure patient and family satisfaction with this intervention program, describe the perceptions of primary care providers who receive computerized patient data on program participants, and determine if use of the BACKER can reduce the length of stay in the ED.

In addition, EMSC Advisory Committee member [Dr. Halim Hennes](#), now at Children's Medical Center in Dallas, received a continuation for a multi-state TI grant he originated at the Medical College of Wisconsin. "Educational Pain Management Program for the EMT-P" is aimed at the implementation of the previously-tested prehospital educational program, Pain Assessment and Management for Prehospital Pediatric Emergencies (PAMPPER), with three EMS systems/agencies in Michigan, California, and Maryland. This program educates the Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic about pain assessment and pain management in children.

## State Partnership Update

### Special Notice for Emergency Service Providers

**Cooper's Quest:** Working together for children of emergency service providers living with disabilities or medical conditions, by offering support and services to enhance quality of life.



Cooper's Quest is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) started by Cooper's god-parents (Tim and Nicole Benton) shortly after Cooper was diagnosed with a rare, life-threatening genetic condition. Cooper's Quest began as a way to honor the beautiful life of Cooper Wilson who only lived a few days past his second birthday. Cooper's Quest is now his legacy. Cooper's father is a fire fighter and his mother is social worker. The goal of Cooper's Quest is to provide some help and support to families of fire fighters, police officers, and EMS personnel raising and caring for kids living with significant disabilities or medical conditions. To learn how to apply for assistance, please visit the website <http://www.coopersquest.org/assistance>. Contributions are always welcome. If you want to help our Questers and their families, donations can be made at <http://www.coopersquest.org/CoopersQuest>.

## Pediatric CE Opportunities

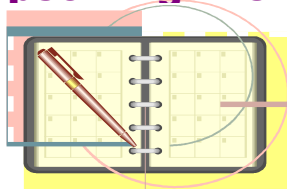
- EMSC State Partnership's "Assessment and Management of Children with Special Health Care Needs" is headed to the North Central Texas RAC on Thursday, October 7. For more information, drop a note in the [Mail Pouch](#), or call Tony Gilchrest at 832-824-6028.
- Check out this fantastic opportunity for free CE from our friends at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital:  
Pediatric EMS Airway Training  
Wednesday, October 6, 2010 at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital-TMC  
6411 Fannin • Ground Floor Robertson Pavilion #175  
Contact Madelyn Jurek at 713.704.6160 or [madelyn.jurek@memorialhermann.org](mailto:madelyn.jurek@memorialhermann.org)

## Final Thought

Action is the foundational key to all success.

**Pablo Picasso**

## Upcoming Events



## Mark Your Calendar

- September 23: EMSC Advisory Committee Teleconference: Details to follow
- October 7: EMSC CE Course; Assessment and Management of Children with Special Health Care Needs, North Central Texas RAC
- October 28: EMSC Stakeholder's Teleconference: Details to follow